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Georgia Southern University



Victor Cabral Hired as Assistant Coach at Georgia Southern
Former Eagle player returns to Statesboro as a defensive coach
Football

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STATESBORO - Former Georgia Southern letterman and assistant coach Victor Cabral is returning to Statesboro as an assistant coach on the defensive side of the ball, as announced Tuesday by head football coach [Chad Lunsford](#). Cabral, who has been recognized for his strong recruiting, spent the past three seasons on the Samford football coaching staff as the Bulldogs' defensive line coach.

"I am fired up to add Victor Cabral to our coaching staff," Lunsford said. "He is a great example of what it means to be True Blue Collar. Vic has the charisma, energy and enthusiasm that is needed for us to take this program to the next level. As a former Eagle player and assistant coach, he understands this place and I can't wait to see him bring that GATA Mentality back to Statesboro."

While at Samford only a short time, he had an immediate impact as the Bulldogs were selected to the FCS Playoffs twice and he tutored the 2017 Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Year in Ahmad Gooden. Gooden was a finalist for the Buck Buchanan Award, was second on the team and ranked in the top 10 in the SoCon in total tackles with 101. He also had 15.5 tackles for loss, including 5.5 sacks, and 11 quarterback pressures, two fumble recoveries and a forced fumble from his tackle spot.

In his first two seasons at Samford, Cabral mentored a defensive line that was one of the strengths of the defense. In 2015, he coached two All-SoCon players in Michael Pierce (first team) and Gooden (second team). In 2016, Gooden and Roosevelt Donaldson were both named All-SoCon.

Cabral spent the 2014 season as the director of player personnel at his alma mater, Georgia Southern.

For four years from 2010-2013, he served as the defensive line coach at Georgia Southern. Cabral worked with several stand-out players during his time at GS, including four-time All-American and 2011 Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Year Brent Russell, who became the Eagles' career sacks leader in 2012.

Cabral joined the Eagle program after spending three years as defensive line coach at Georgia Military College, where he also served as special teams coordinator for the Bulldogs. In 2007, the GMC defensive unit earned a No. 1 ranking in rushing defense in the NJCAA. The next season, the Bulldogs ranked third nationally in total defense.

With success at the team level, the Bulldogs also had several individuals earn national accolades. Leroy Burgess was selected as a third-team NJCAA All-American and in 2008, Torrey Ball earned second-team All-America honors.

Under the tutelage of Cabral, Markeith Wylie was recognized as first-team Academic All-American in 2007. Thirteen GMC players coached by Cabral received

scholarships to NCAA Division I programs during his three seasons in Milledgeville.

Cabral returned to Georgia Southern for the 2005 campaign, coordinating video and quality control for the Eagles. During the winter and spring of 2006, Cabral assisted with the defensive line, including the preparation of daily practice plans and on-field evaluation and coaching.

A four-year Georgia Southern starter and letterwinner, Cabral was part of the winning tradition that included the 2000 national championship, two NCAA semifinal playoff appearances and four conference titles during his career. Following his collegiate playing career, Cabral was the 24th overall draft pick by the Montreal Alouettes of the CFL in 2005.

The former Eagle team captain earned his bachelor of arts degree from Georgia Southern in May 2006 and graduated with his master's degree in July 2013. Cabral and his wife, Erin, are the parents of a son, Zac, and a daughter, Lucy.

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